

Serial No.: 10/550,735
Atty. Docket No.: P70823US0

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel, amend and add the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An adhesive patch for covering a portion of the anatomical surface of a living being, said patch being able to adhere to the skin, and/or a wound on a part of the body, said patch comprising a backing layer and a layer of a skin-friendly adhesive for adhering to the skin, and the patch further comprising a central first area defined by an outer border and a central hole and provided with a first set of indentations that encircle said central hole and radial indentations that cross said first set of indentations, a second area surrounding the first area and separated therefrom by said first area outer border, and a third area surrounding the second area, said third area bounded by a rim of said patch and an inner border to define a substantially annular area therebetween, said third area covered by a pattern of curvilinear indentations.

Claims 2-4 (Canceled).

5. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein the indentations in the third area are in the form of two

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or more series of curvilinear indentations intersecting with and crossing each other.

6. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein the indentations are in the form of grooves having a level bottom.

7. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein the curvilinear indentations are defined by a mathematical function of second or higher order or a hyperbolic function.

8. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein the third area is provided with radial zones having a thickness comparable with a thickness of the material in the bottom of the indentations in the third area.

9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) A wound dressing comprising an adhesive patch having a backing layer and a layer of a skin-friendly adhesive for adhering to the skin, said patch having a central area and an edge area surrounding the central area and extending to a rim of said dressing, said central and edge areas

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having different thicknesses and being respectively provided with indentations having different patterns, with the indentations in the edge area being in the form of a pattern of curvilinear indentations that extends to said rim and that meet said rim at angles of other than 90° and 180°, the thickness in said edge area being less than the thickness in said central area for greater flexibility in said edge area.

11. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing as claimed in claim 10 further comprising an intermediate area between said central and edge areas, said intermediate area having a substantially uniform thickness without indentations.

12. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing as claimed in claim 10 wherein said indentations have a depth of at least two-thirds of a total thickness of said dressing.

13. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing as claimed in claim 10 wherein the pattern of indentations in the central area includes radial indentations that intersect with a set of indentations that encircle a central point of the dressing to form a cross-hatched pattern.

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14. (Previously Presented) The wound dressing as claimed in claim 13 wherein the indentations in the edge area are in the form of two or more series of curvilinear indentations intersecting with and crossing each other.

15. (Canceled).

16. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 1 wherein said pattern of curvilinear indentations in said third area is a cross-hatched pattern.

17. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 16 wherein said curvilinear indentations in said cross-hatched pattern form angles with the patch rim that are other than 90° and 180°.

18. (Previously Presented) The patch as claimed in claim 17 wherein said curvilinear indentations in said cross-hatched pattern extend to the patch rim.

19. (Currently Amended) The adhesive patch as claimed in claim 10 ⁹ wherein the ~~first~~ central area includes a central hole and a set of substantially concentric indentations encircling the central hole.

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20. (Currently Amended) The adhesive patch as claimed in claim 19 wherein the ~~first~~ central area further includes a radial indentations that intersect with and cross said concentric indentations to form a cross-hatched pattern.

21. (New) An adhesive patch for covering a portion of the anatomical surface of a living being, said patch being able to adhere to the skin, and/or a wound on a part of the body, said patch comprising a backing layer and a layer of a skin-friendly adhesive for adhering to the skin, and the patch further comprising a central first area defined by a central hole and an outer border, a second area surrounding the first area and separated therefrom by said first area outer border, and a third area surrounding the second area, said third area bounded by a rim of said patch and an inner border to define a substantially annular area therebetween, said central first area having a pattern of indentations encircling the central hole crossed by radial indentations, said second area having a substantially uniform thickness without indentations, and said third area covered by a pattern of curvilinear indentations that includes two or more series of curvilinear indentations intersecting with and crossing each other in a cross-hatched pattern so as to form angles with the patch rim that are other than 90° and 180°.

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22. (New) The patch as claimed in claim 21 wherein a thickness of said patch in said central first area is greater than in said third area.

23. (New) The patch as claimed in claim 21 wherein said indentations are in the form of grooves having a level bottom to improve flexibility and capacity for taking up wrinkles or folds.

24. (New) The patch as claimed in claim 21 wherein the third area is provided with radial ungrooved zones having a thickness comparable with a thickness of the patch in bottoms of the indentations in the third area.